

In the Claims:

All of the claims standing for examination are presented below with appropriate status indication.

1-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently amended) A system for providing timing information to a microprocessor-controlled device having a set of mechanical functions that are started and stopped by a time-of-day (TOD), comprising:

a device including an integrated microprocessor for controlling the mechanical functions of the device;

an interactive interface presented on a display of a computer appliance, separate from the device, having a Universal Serial Bus (USB) port, enabling a user to select through the interactive display individual ones of the set of mechanical functions of for the microprocessor-controlled device, and to select specific TOD for starting or stopping the mechanical functions selected; and

a thumb drive flash memory unit including a USB connector;

wherein the computer appliance saves the TOD selected for each mechanical function selected, in a form compatible with and recognizable by the microprocessor controlled executable by the microprocessor of the device, to the thumb drive through the USB port, the thumb drive to be carried to the microprocessor-controlled device and engaged to a USB port at the device, to upload the timing information to the microprocessor of the device, the microprocessor executing the timing information for the mechanical functions of the device.

21-27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently amended) The system of claim 20 wherein the programmable device is a timing device for a sprinkler system, and the mechanical functions are opening and closing of switches for controlling water valves.

29-30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently amended) A method for providing timing information to a microprocessor-controlled device including an integrated microprocessor for controlling mechanical functions of the device having set of the mechanical functions that are started and stopped by a time-of-day (TOD), comprising the steps of:

(a) selecting through an interactive display presented by a computer program specific to the microprocessor-controlled device on a monitor screen of a computer appliance, individual ones of the set of mechanical functions of the microprocessor-controlled device;

selecting for the individual mechanical functions specific TOD for starting and stopping the mechanical functions; ~~and~~

saving the TOD for each selected mechanical function in a form compatible with and recognizable by the microprocessor of the microprocessor controlled device, to a thumb drive flash memory unit including a USB connector through a USB port of the computer appliance, to be carried to the microprocessor-controlled device and engaged to a USB port at the device, to upload to the microprocessor of the device the timing information to the device; and

executing the timing information from the microprocessor of the device thereby controlling the mechanical functions of the device according to the uploaded timing information

32-38. (Cancelled)

39. (Currently amended) The method of claim 31 wherein the programmable device is a timing device for a sprinkler system, and the mechanical functions are opening and closing of switches for controlling water valves.

40-41. (Cancelled)